

PEOPLE who talk behind your back really haven't anything important to say.

HOME EDITION

LLOYD-GEORGE, ASQUITH, GREY AND BALFOUR VISIT FRANCE

English Leaders Go for Big War Conference.

Rumania to Join Hands With Central Empires Soon.

GREECE GIVES LONDON CHEER

British Hear Constantine Is Anxious to See Kitchener.

At Same Time Athens Envoy Is on Way to Berlin.

Berlin, Nov. 17.—Attempts of the Serbians to check the Austro-German drive have again failed, the war office announced today. More than 2,000 Serbians were captured yesterday.

London, Nov. 17.—Official announcement was made that Premier Asquith, Foreign Secretary Grey, David Lloyd-George, minister of munitions, and A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty, have arrived in Paris for consultation with the French government.

Rumania Soon Kaiser's Ally
Bucharest, Nov. 12.—(via London, Nov. 17.—Delayed)—Former Premier Carp is credited by the newspaper Adeverul with the statement that Rumania will take up arms on the side of Germany in December. The prediction is made by M. Carp that as soon as established communications make it possible, Germany will make new offers to Rumania in the form of an ultimatum, requiring a reply within forty-eight hours.

Second Bulgar Force Advanced.
Saloniki, Nov. 17.—In addition to the Bulgarian column which turned the Serbian position at Babuna pass, a second Bulgar force advancing on Kostovo from Kalkandene. The Bulgarians are reported withdrawing from Cerna river section, which is held by the Serbians.

The French report many desertions from the Bulgarian army.
Greece Soon to Cast Die.
London, Nov. 17.—The Greek government appears to be adopting a less uncompromising attitude, says the Athens correspondent of Reuters Telegram company. It is believed to be seeking a satisfactory solution of the question as to its attitude toward allied troops which might take refuge in the Greek territory, although it hesitates to make a declaration in the form demanded by the entente powers.

The correspondent says King Constantine has expressed a desire to see Earl Kitchener, the British secretary for war, who is now in the Near East, and discuss the situation with him from a military standpoint.
The diplomatic corps has gone from Monastir to Florina, just across the border in northern Greece.
"Allies Situation Hopeless."
Amsterdam, Nov. 17.—Continuing his criticism of the Anglo-French operations in the Balkans, the Tagblatt, the military critic, says in the Tagblatt:

"From a military point of view, never before has the expeditionary army which came over the sea and relied on an insecure base for its operations, run such risks."
He regards the situation as hopeless for the allies, even if Italy is able to send 150,000 troops to the Balkans, and declares the destruction of Serbia will only be a question of time.
Greek Ministry to Germany.
Rome, Nov. 17.—It is announced (Continued on Page 2)

WAR NEWS BOILED DOWN FOR THE RUSHED READER
The advance of the Teutonic allies against the Serbians is not being appreciably retarded by the Serbian defense. Capture of more than 2,000 additional Serbians is reported.
A gloomy view of the situation as regards the allied expedition in the Balkans is drawn by the Saloniki correspondent of the Paris Journal. He declares Austro-German forces are hurrying southward in large numbers, and that the allies will have to detach themselves alone against the triple attack of the Teutons, Bulgarians and Turks, as assistance from Greece is not to be expected. He urges that reinforcements be sent in large numbers, or that the allied armies be re-embarked, "while there is yet time."
Italy will send troops to join the allies armies at Saloniki.
Twelve thousand Arabs have joined the British army at Mesopotamia and this army is said to have reached a point within a few miles of Bagdad.
Russian destroyers have bombarded German positions at Petraghe and nearby on the Northern Courland coast. The German war office announced that although the situation on the Russian front is unchanged, Lord Kitchener is on his way to the Dardanelles.
General von Mackensen will take charge of the Turkish operations on Gallipoli peninsula.
Lloyd-George, Grey, Balfour and Asquith are in France. They held a war council with Gallieni, Briand, Admiral Lacaze and Joffre today.

The Topeka State Journal.

TOPEKA, KANSAS, WEDNESDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 17, 1915—TWELVE PAGES

THIS EDITION 2 CENTS

WEATHER forecast for Kansas: Cold wave tonight; Thursday fair and colder, with fresh north-west winds.

ENGLAND'S STRONG MEN IN FRANCE TO PLAN FOR DECISIVE BLOW OF WAR

Paris, Nov. 17.—The precise object of the visit to Paris of members of the British war council has not been disclosed. It is generally assumed, however, that the presence in France of the men who are charged with the responsibility of conducting the war for Great Britain marks an important development in the policy of co-ordination among the entente powers as announced by Premier Asquith in his recent speech before the house of commons.

With Premier Asquith are David Lloyd-George, minister of war, Sir Edward Grey, foreign secretary, and A. J. Balfour, first lord of the admiralty.
The first meeting of the joint Anglo-French war council was held here this afternoon. Aside from the British leaders named above the participants were French Premier Briand, General Gallieni, French minister of war, Admiral Lacaze, French minister of marine, and General Joffre, the French commander-in-chief.

WOUNDED DROWN

British Hospital Ship Sunk by Channel Mine.

Three Hundred Saved Out of Total of 385 Men.

London, Nov. 17.—The British hospital ship Anglia was sunk by a mine in the English channel today. Three hundred men were saved out of a total of 385. The ship was bearing wounded soldiers.
The secretary of the colonies was asked in the house of commons whether the government had received information concerning the report of the sinking of the Anglia.
"I am sorry that I have no information which I can communicate to the house," he replied. "If I receive any later in the day I shall communicate it."

TO SAFEGUARD WOMEN

London Asks U. S. to Help Protect Relief Workers in Serbia.

London, Nov. 17.—The British foreign office is asking the state department at Washington to take diplomatic steps to assure protection for the women connected with the relief missions in Serbia.

FIRE DESTROYS COTTON

Company at Providence Working for Allies Suffers Heavy Loss.

Providence, R. I., Nov. 17.—One thousand bales of cotton in the East Providence warehouse of the East Providence spinning company were destroyed by fire today. The company, it was stated, had contracted to supply the allies with a specially prepared product, to be used in the preparation of gun-cotton.
The origin of the fire is undetermined. It was said that there was no heat in the four story brick structure where the cotton was stored and that the light power had been turned off last night.
The loss is estimated at \$50,000.

FOOD RIOTS IN BERLIN

Authorities Threaten to Shoot Leaders of Demonstrations.

London, Nov. 17.—Frequent food riots in Berlin, with threats from the authorities that ring leaders will be shot, if the disorders continue, are reported today in Copenhagen dispatches.
Smashing of shop windows and looting by throngs of needy in the German capital are of daily occurrence, the reports said.

ARABS JOIN THE BRITISH

Allied Troops in Mesopotamia Are Nearing Bagdad.

London, Nov. 17.—According to reports from German sources, forwarded from The Hague to the Central News, the British army has almost reached the British army in Mesopotamia. This army is said to have approached within a few miles of Bagdad.

SOUTH PROFITS, TOO

Million Dollar War Munitions Company Organized in Alabama.

Anniston, Ala., Nov. 17.—Formation of a million dollar corporation to be known as the Anniston Ordnance manufacturing company, and to manufacture munitions and ordnance, was announced here today by officials of the Alabama Power company.
It was stated that a contract to supply war munitions already had been accepted from J. P. Morgan & Co., and work would begin at an early date.

FIRE HITS IOWA CITY

Blaze Costing Half Million Still Rages in Wholesale District.

Clinton, Iowa, Nov. 17.—Fire which started in the warehouse of the Clinton Grocery company and was still burning at noon today has almost destroyed that building, the building of the T. M. Goble Wholesale Grocery company, adjoining, and the plant of a candy company, causing damage estimated at \$750,000.

TO SKIRT KANSAS

Tentative Route of Jefferson Highway Is Announced.

Compromise on Course Prevented Convention's Disruption

ARKANSAS ALSO LEFT OUT

Permanent Officers of the Association Are Elected.

Next Meeting Will Be Held in Kansas City.

New Orleans, La., Nov. 17.—The board of directors of the Jefferson Highway association Tuesday night selected a tentative route through Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota for the proposed international highway from New Orleans to Winnipeg, Canada.

The route selected, which, it was announced, was subject to minor changes, passes through Baton Rouge, Alexandria and Shreveport, La.; Denison, Texas; Muskogee, Okla.; Joplin, Kansas City and St. Joseph, Mo.; Des Moines, Iowa; St. Paul and Minneapolis, Minn., and thence to Winnipeg.

The route through Texas and Oklahoma, it was said, would include the Katy highway and from Kansas City to St. Paul the interstate route. The directors were elected earlier in the day after the formal organization of the highway association by good roads advocates from the Mississippi valley states and the Canadian province of Manitoba and met in executive session immediately after the adjournment of the convention.

Route a Compromise.
The route selected virtually was a compromise between several routes suggested by the delegates and which threatened at one time to disrupt the convention. The Oklahoma delegation insisted upon recognition and declared that to award to their state a link of the highway would be a recognition inasmuch as Oklahoma was completing the eighth anniversary of statehood.
The route of Texas and Oklahoma was the best of the three proposed, through Arkansas, as the route through Missouri, Iowa and Minnesota for that advocated through Kansas, Nebraska and North and South Dakota.

Meredith Pres.
T. N. Meredith, Des Moines, Iowa, originator of the Jefferson highway movement, was elected president of the organization by acclamation and the board of directors elected D. N. Fink, Muskogee, Okla., vice president; J. W. Saville, St. Paul, Minn., treasurer, and Walter Parker, New Orleans, general secretary. The next meeting of the board will be held in Kansas City at the call of the president.

The membership fees as agreed upon by the directors range from \$5 to \$100 and all subscriptions over \$500 up, inclusive, would entitle the subscriber to a life membership. Subscriptions amounting to \$2,500 of the total of \$100,000 needed to complete the highway, were obtained immediately. President Meredith subscribed \$1,000; H. H. Polk, of Des Moines, \$1,000, and Vice President Fink \$500.

INTO MINE TOMB

Rescue Parties Work in Shifts to Recover Bodies.

Twenty-Five Men Buried Under Tons of Debris.

Seattle, Wash., Nov. 17.—Rescue parties which worked in ninety-minute shifts all night are still at work today, endeavoring to recover the bodies of twenty-five men buried under tons of debris in the third level of the Northwestern Improvement company's coal mine at Ravensdale, thirty-five miles southeast of here.
The explosion in the mine yesterday killed thirty-one men and injured three others.
The bodies of six, including Foreman P. J. Kane, were recovered last night, and the rescuers have hopes of reaching two more within a few hours, but the others are so far back in the wreckage, about 1,500 feet underground, that it is feared it will take many hours to reach them.

Reports circulated last night that fire in the mine had started again, and the rescuers have hopes of reaching two more within a few hours, but the others are so far back in the wreckage, about 1,500 feet underground, that it is feared it will take many hours to reach them.

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MEN OF LETTERS MEET

William Allen White and Brand Whitlock at Boston Gathering.

Boston, Nov. 17.—Prominent writers gathered here today in preparation for the joint sessions of the National Institute of Arts and Letters and the American Academy of Arts and Letters, tomorrow and Friday. The members of the institute will be the guests of President Lawrence Lowell of Harvard university.
The institute medal awarded each year to a citizen of the United States for distinction in some particular branch of art or literature will be given this year to a writer of fiction. The award will be announced Friday.
Literary exercises will be held Thursday and Friday forenoons. Among those who will present papers are Brand Whitlock, United States minister to Belgium, President Nicholas Murray Butler of Columbia university, Arnold W. Brunner and William Allen White.

LORD KITCHENER ON WAY TO GALLIOLI PENINSULA

Athens, Nov. 16.—(via London, Nov. 17.)—The newspapers here state that Earl Kitchener, British war secretary, has left Mudros for the Gallipoli peninsula.

SHOT BY MEXICAN

W. E. Cowdry, Rock Island Detective, Is Wounded.

His Assailant and a Brother Are Landed in Prison.

The martial spirit of war-ridden Mexico landed two natives of that land in the county jail this afternoon and put W. E. Cowdry, a special officer for the Rock Island and a brother of the late Lord Kitchener, in a local hospital. When Cowdry attempted to search the Mexicans—Jesus and Alonzo Hernandez—who were trespassing on the highway property, one of them whipped out a revolver and shot the officer in the left leg below the groin. Immediately Cowdry pulled his gun and fired, wounding the assailant in the chest. The two Mexicans, who are brothers, had been under suspicion of the officer for some time, and when he noticed them lurking about the tracks, he stopped them and began an investigation. When the Mexican pulled his revolver, Cowdry had one hand in his assailant's pocket.

The police worked with remarkable speed. The shooting took place at 2 o'clock. Half an hour later both of the Mexicans were being held at the city prison. Immediately after Cowdry fell and ceased firing, the Hernandez brothers ran north on Tyler street and were separated.

Jesus Hernandez was captured by Motorcycle Officer Richards less than twenty-five minutes after Cowdry was wounded. The Mexican was located in a corralled near Skinner's nurseries, north of the city, by Richards. The officer called several other policemen who were assisting in the search for the fugitives and Summers, Morgan and Abbott surrounded the field in which Jesus was hiding. Alonzo was caught by H. E. Gains, special officer for the Union Pacific railway, near the Union Pacific coal chute.

The two Mexicans were turned over to the county attorney immediately after their capture and warrants charging them with assault with intent to kill will be issued this afternoon, it was stated.
At St. Joseph hospital where Cowdry was taken, it was said his injuries were not serious.

HE HAS ENOUGH WAR

Princeton Student, Accused of Espionage to Return to U. S.

New York, Nov. 17.—Friends of Wolfgang G. T. Triest, a New York contractor, received word from London today that Mr. Triest's son, Kenneth, who was accused of espionage, will be released from the British detention camp at Chatham on Friday and will start for America with his father on Saturday.
Young Triest ran away from Princeton and enlisted in the British navy, was arrested as a German spy and was held in a detention camp. He was released through representation by the American state department that he was not responsible for his actions. Mr. Triest left New York ten days ago to bring his son home.

IRON OUT PARTY WOES

Wilson, With Democratic Leaders, Smooth Way to Success.

Washington, Nov. 17.—To smooth out difficulties in the way of party success, the New Jersey was the subject of a conference at the White House today between President Wilson and Democratic leaders of that state, including among others, Governor Fisher.
Governor Fisher already has announced that he would not be a candidate for the United States senate, he said, was irreversible.
Other party representatives in the conference included State Chairman Grosscup and Thomas H. French, United States minister to Portugal, who is in this country on vacation.

LIFEBOATS NOT SHELLED

Austria Makes Categorical Denial of Charges of Inhumanity.

Washington, Nov. 17.—An official communication from Austria-Hungary, forwarded to Secretary Lansing today by American Ambassador Penfield, denies categorically that any shots were fired at the Italian liner Ancona after she came to a stop, on the Adriatic, submarine which torpedoed her shelled her life boats, as has been charged.
Ambassador Penfield's dispatch evidently crossed Secretary Lansing's instructions of yesterday directing him to ask the Vienna foreign office for information.
The full details of today's dispatch will be given out for publication later.

FOE TO TYPHOID DEAD

Major A. Seeder, Famed for Cuban Health Campaign, Expires.

Rochester, N. Y., Nov. 17.—Major A. Seeder, a M. M. D., died at Lyons, Tuesday night, aged 67. Dr. Seeder was born in Astoria, Ohio, November 2, 1848. During the Spanish-American war he was first to make known the discovery of the fact that typhoid germs are carried by flies and it was on his authority that the government entered on its successful work of preventing the spread of typhoid in Cuba.

TEST AIR CRAFT

First Aero Army Squadron Leaves Ft. Sill Tomorrow.

Permanent Headquarters To Be Established in Texas.

AS IN REAL WAR TIMES

The Fliers Will Be Put to a Severe Test.

Flight to San Antonio Will Cover 450 Miles.

Fort Sill, Ok., Nov. 17.—Fort Sill was bustling with activity today in preparation for the departure of the First Aero Squadron of the United States army, which tomorrow morning will fly from its temporary home here to its new station at San Antonio, Texas. The flight originally was scheduled to start on November 20, but fine weather and the fact that everything was in readiness at San Antonio caused a change in plans. Six aeroplanes will make the journey. The aerial journey will be made under conditions as nearly like those encountered in actual war time as possible. The distance to be covered is 450 miles. Stops will be made at these points in Texas: Wichita Falls, Bowie, Decatur, Fort Worth, Cleburne, Hillsboro, Waco, Georgetown, Austin and possibly at Granger and Temple.

Like in War Times.
The flight is intended to give a line on just how army aviators may be expected to work during war. It will test to the utmost the ability of the fliers to follow a previously designed route over unknown country; it will give an opportunity to try the army transport system under stipulated war conditions.

OUTLOOK IS BAD

Freight Congestion in New York Worst in History.

Rush of Munitions to Europe Blocks Railroads.

New York, Nov. 17.—Congestion of freight in and around New York continues to be so great as to cause shipping and transportation companies serious concern. It is attributed mainly to the rush of food stuffs and war munitions for shipment to the belligerent nations.

It was stated today that one railroad has upward of seven thousand loaded cars blocked between Pittsburgh and this city and that several hundred freight cars with locomotives and railway equipment for Russia are included in the blockade. No relief is seen by railroad officials.
The president of one of the large eastern railroads said today that the congestion is the worst within his memory. Some of the freight cars loaded with munitions for Russia are included in the blockade. No relief is seen by railroad officials.
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COLD WAVE COMING

Rain or Snow, Accompanied by a High Wind, Is Forecast.

The first serious cold wave of the season is due to arrive tonight. Rain or snow, driven by high northwest winds is the prospect. Temperatures will probably be down to 20 degrees or below, and a wind velocity of between 25 and 30 miles an hour is expected. The forecast calls for a cold wave with rain or snow on Thursday; Thursday fair and colder with fresh northwest winds.
The shippers' forecast says: "Protect 24 chief shipments north and west against temperatures of between 20 and 25 degrees. South and east, 30 degrees." Temperatures today averaged 6 degrees above zero, but the wind blew at the rate of 15 miles an hour from the south.
Temperature readings:
7 o'clock 43.1 1 o'clock 50
8 o'clock 44.12 2 o'clock 52
9 o'clock 46 1 o'clock 52
10 o'clock 47 2 o'clock 51

BLANKET TO MRS. GALT

Vice President Marshall Sends Gift to President's Fiancee.

Phoenix, Ariz., Nov. 17.—Vice President Thomas R. Marshall's wedding gift to Mrs. Norman Galt, President Wilson's fiancee, is a gorgeous Navajo blanket, which was found in the reservation in northeastern Arizona. The gift was sent east today.

WILSON IN MERCY PLEA

President Again Wires Spry in Behalf of Hillstrom.

Washington, Nov. 17.—President Wilson today, for the second time, wired Governor Spry of Utah, asking him to stay the sentence of execution passed on Joseph Hillstrom, sentenced to die Friday.

Cudahy Give to Charity.
Milwaukee, Nov. 17.—Patrick Cudahy, who recently retired from active business, today announced a fund of \$100,000 has been set aside for the Cudahy family, the proceeds of which will be devoted to charity. Cudahy was born in Milwaukee, and was turned over to the trustees of the Milwaukee foundation for distribution through general charitable channels.

VON MACKENSEN TO TAKE CHARGE OF TURK FORCES IN DARDANELLES THEATER

Athens, Nov. 17.—Field Marshal von Mackensen will take command of the Turkish Dardanelles operations as soon as he arrives in Constantinople, advises from the Turkish capital state today.
It is predicted that this will be soon. The Turks are preparing already to give a grand reception to the Austro-German forces which broke down the Serbian barrier and opened communication between Berlin and Constantinople.

A. S. THOMAS DIES

Pioneer Topekan Passed Away at Silver Lake Today.

Was Prominent in Early Day Topeka Politics.

Adolphus S. Thomas, Topeka pioneer resident and landowner of Shawnee county, and for many years clerk of the United States district court at Topeka, died at 6 o'clock this morning at his home in Silver Lake. Mr. Thomas had been in poor health for two years. His condition became serious Monday, and owing to his advanced age he was unable to rally. He was eighty-two years of age.



Adolphus S. Thomas, pioneer Topekan, who died today.

Adolphus S. Thomas was born in December, 1833, in Canton, Pa. He was the oldest son of Chester Thomas, for many years identified with the early history of Topeka and Shawnee county. The family came to Kansas in 1864 and settled in Topeka. "Uncle Chet" was called judge here for a long period. "Dolph" Thomas became clerk of the United States district court in 1865, a position which he held for twenty-three years, resigning in November, 1888, on account of ill health. Mr. Thomas received his appointment to the office from John F. Dillon, father of Hiram Dillon of Topeka. He was succeeded in office by George Sharritt, now a resident of Topeka.

Pioneer in Scientific Farming.
Following his resignation from the federal office Mr. Thomas devoted his time to his farm. He was an extensive owner of Kaw valley land and was one of the pioneers of scientific farming. For a considerable period Mr. Thomas lived in Topeka near Stormont hospital. After leaving the court position he used to spend his time at his farm near Silver Lake, returning home Saturday evenings. He moved to Silver Lake about fifteen years ago.

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GREAT AT NEGRO'S BIER

Simple Ceremony at Burial of Booker T. Washington.

Tuskegee, Ala., Nov. 17.—Simplicity marked the funeral of Booker T. Washington, noted negro educator, here today, at the institution which he made famous and which has played such an important part in the elevation of the negro race. More than 5,000 persons came to Tuskegee to pay a last tribute to Dr. Washington.
The simple Episcopal burial service was read and many old plantation songs which the dead educator loved so well were sung.
Prominent men in all walks of life attended the exercises.

PARLI'S BODY FOUND

Victim of Randolph Wreck Located Near Scene of Accident.

Manhattan, Nov. 17.—The body of George Parli of Axtell, Kan., twelfth victim of the train wreck at Randolph, Kan., October 18, was found near Fancy creek bridge today. It was identified by marks on the arms.

CLARK WITH PRESIDENT

Speaker at White House Friday to Discuss Congressional Program.

Washington, Nov. 17.—Speaker Clark telegraphed President Wilson today he would be in Washington next Friday to respond to the president's invitation to the conference on the congressional program particularly the plans for national defense.

Sugar Company Declares Dividend.
New York, Nov. 17.—The Cuban-American Sugar company today declared a dividend of 2 1/2 per cent on the common stock, being the first dividend on this issue, and a regular quarterly dividend of 1 1/2 per cent on the preferred stock. Both dividends are payable January 1.

A VOTE OF DEATH

Life of Subnormal Allowed to Ebb Away.

Doctors Agree No Operation Should Be Performed.

1 DEFECTIVE LESS IN WORLD

Mother Says Nature Should Correct Its Blunder.

Physician Who Withheld Knife Expects Criticism.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—Police Chief Healy this afternoon called a hurried conference with the commissioner of Health Robertson and Coroner Hoffman, to decide what action, if any, those departments can take to save the life of the defective infant of Mr. and Mrs. Allan Hollinger.

Chicago, Nov. 17.—A ballot to determine whether to attempt to save the life of a deformed sub-normal infant or whether by inertia to let the child die, resulted in a death sentence for the little one today.

The infant's mother, told that an operation might save the child's life although no known human intelligence could promise any mental development for the babe, wept and agreed to abide by the judgment of the physicians. Of a score of hospital nurses consulted, one alone voted for the life of the child. Dr. J. Hazeldine took the responsibility, cast the deciding vote and did not perform the operation, "convicted" as he still alive tonight but authorities believe the hospital would probably not live through another 24 hours.

So the Line Is Drawn.
"It is a question of ethics," said Dr. Hazeldine. "While we all know physicians do not allow monstrosities to live, the line must be drawn somewhere. I have drawn the line in this case."

"The child could have been saved as one more idiotic defective. Defectives are prolific. It would reproduce its kind and these initial deformities would have become magnified and multiplied."

Mrs. Anna Hollinger told today the story of her consent to let her deformed boy, and her mind, die rather than live a life "barren and useless."

"Not Heartless," Mother Says.
"It is not heartless of me," Mrs. Hollinger said. "I loved the poor deformed one as I love my three other healthy children, but the doctor told me it would be a cripple all its life—probably an imbecile and possibly with a mind doing no work. I am satisfied I am doing right. I have no chance to live. I consented to let nature take its course."

"No one would think me an unnatural mother. This poor little boy, if allowed to live, would be barren, useless. It is one of nature's blunders, and I am willing that nature should correct an error by my baby's death. I am satisfied I am doing right. Dr. Hazeldine said he was prepared to face bitter criticism and defend his course."

"I have no doubt that I shall be called a murderer," he said, "but the infant's death is a question between me and my conscience."

FARE FIGHT RESUMED

Frisco Expert Declares Deficit Followed in Wake of Low Rate.

Oklahoma City, Okla., Nov. 17.—The third session of the railroad rate hearing wherein railroads are endeavoring to obtain a raise in passenger rates from two to three cents per mile in Oklahoma, began before United States District Judge Frank A. Young today.
Some valuation testimony of the various roads remained to be introduced and T. A. Hamilton, efficiency supervisor for the Santa Fe and San Francisco, railroad, was the first witness called to the stand. His testimony consisted of a detailed account of the maintenance of the roads, and of his road in recent years, and made necessary by increased labor cost, increase taxes materials and decreasing rates, according to the witness.

MR. HODGES IS HERE

Santa Fe Vice President Has Been Looking Over Oil Fields.

W. E. Hodges, vice president of the Santa Fe railway, in charge of stores, purchases and fuel, spent today in Topeka visiting local officials. He is accompanied by F. E. Conners, assistant to the vice president.

Mr. Hodges is now in Oklahoma investigating the oil properties recently purchased by the Santa Fe railway for fuel uses. He was in Ardmore Tuesday and said the conditions in that city are assuming normal proportions and that the cotton traffic is picking up in the vicinity.
No special import is attached to the vice president's visit. He is in Topeka frequently. He leaves late this afternoon for Chicago. But it will not be long before he comes through here again for a brief tour of the west.

"I have the finest little lemon ranch in the world at Santa Barbara," he said, "and I believe that it needs some attention. So as soon as possible, I am going out there and spend a few days, forgetting railroad problems."

Noted Woman Writer Dead.
Scranton, Pa., Nov. 17.—Miss Susan T. Dickinson, noted literary woman and newspaper writer, died here of pneumonia. Miss Dickinson was a regular contributor to the leading periodicals of half a century ago and was with the New York Herald and New York Tribune, serving for a time during the Civil war as a war correspondent for the latter paper.